

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6. (Canceled)

--7. (New) A moving picture compression method wherein a motion vector of a picture signal is quantized; the moving picture compression method comprising the steps of:

separating the motion vector of a moving picture signal;

compressing the moving picture signal using the motion vector; and

dequantizing a quantized motion vector separated in said separating step.--

--8. (New) The moving picture compression method as claimed in claim 7 wherein the motion vector is multiplexed in a blanking portion of the moving picture signal.--

--9. (New) A moving picture expansion method for expanding a compressed motion picture signal comprising the steps of:

separating a motion vector supplied in a state of being appended to the compressed motion picture signal;

expanding the compressed motion picture signal using the separated motion vector; and

multiplexing the separated motion vector in a blanking portion of the expanded motion picture signal.--

--10 (New) A moving picture expansion method for expanding a compressed motion picture signal comprising the steps of:

separating a motion vector supplied in a state of being appended to the compressed motion picture signal;

expanding the compressed motion picture signal using the separated motion vector;

multiplexing the separated motion vector of the expanded motion picture signal;

quantizing the separated motion vector; and

multiplexing the separated quantized motion vector of the expanded motion picture signal.--

--11. (New) The moving picture expansion method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the motion vector is multiplexed in a blanking portion of the motion picture signal.--

--12. (New) A moving picture compression method comprising the steps of:

receiving an expanded motion picture signal that had been produced by multiplexing an expanded moving picture signal with a motion vector that was used for the expansion of said moving picture signal;

separating a received motion vector from the received expanded motion picture signal;
and

compressing the received expanded motion picture signal using the separated motion vector.--

--13. (New) A moving picture compression method comprising the steps of:

receiving an expanded motion picture signal that had been produced by multiplexing an expanded moving picture signal with a motion vector that was used for the expansion of said moving picture signal;

separating a received motion vector from the received expanded motion picture signal;

detecting, from the received expanded motion picture signal freed of the multiplexed motion vector, a new motion vector in the neighborhood of the separated motion vector; and

compressing the received expanded motion picture signal using the new motion vector.--

--14. (New) A moving picture compression method comprising the steps of:

separating from a received moving picture signal a motion vector multiplexed in a blanking portion in the received moving picture signal, wherein said motion vector is separated from said blanking portion before compression and expansion, and is used for compression and expansion when repeated compression and expansion of said received moving picture signal is to occur;

detecting, from the received moving picture signal freed of the multiplexed motion vector, a new motion vector in the neighborhood of the separated motion vector; and

compressing the received moving picture signal using the new motion vector.--

--15. (New) A moving picture expansion method for expanding a compressed motion picture signal comprising the steps of:

separating from the compressed motion picture signal a motion vector appended thereto;

expanding the compressed motion picture signal using the separated motion vector; and

multiplexing the separated motion vector in a blanking portion in a received moving picture signal with the expanded motion picture signal;

wherein said motion vector is separated from said blanking portion before compression and expansion, and is used for compression and expansion when repeated compression and expansion of said received moving picture signal is to occur.--